

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1. (currently amended): A measuring probe-(S), comprising:
~~having the means to for access-accessing~~ data flows composed of packets, transmitted along a path formed by a multiplicity of equipment in a telecommunication network;~~s and the-measurement means (S_M) to perform for performing~~ measurements, in accordance with configuration data-(B_C), characterised in that in addition it possesses determination means (S_D) employed to determine for determining that one or more packets transmitted along the said path form a ~~signalling-signaling~~ message;~~s and signalling-signaling~~ means (S_S) to determine for determining the said configuration data from ~~this signalling-said signaling~~ message wherein said measurement means are operable to transmit measurement reports, containing said measurements, to a measuring device determined by an identifier contained in said configuration data; and
~~said measurements are transmitted to said measuring device by means of a proxy, the measurement reports transmitted to said proxy containing said identifier.~~

2. (currently amended): A measuring probe in accordance with claim 1, ~~in which the wherein~~ said measurements are relative to ~~the~~ said data flow.

3-4. (canceled).

5. (currently amended): A measuring probe in accordance with claim 1, ~~in which the wherein said determination means of determination (S₁) are suitable for reading are operable to read~~ a specific label, contained in ~~the~~ said received message, and ~~for determining determine~~ whether the said received message is a ~~signalling~~ signaling message from this specific label.

6. (currently amended): A measuring probe in accordance with claim 1, ~~in which the wherein said configuration base contains a set of records, each record corresponding to a measurement task and each record comprising containing in particular:~~

a filter which determines determining the packets on which the measurements must be performed; and

parameters relating to the method of measurement;

7. (currently amended): A measuring probe in accordance with claim 6-4, in which the said parameters are chosen from a combination the group of factors including comprising:

the time during which the measurements must be performed;

sampling data; and

a hashing function in particular;

a parameter triggering the a time-stamping of the packets to be measured;

a parameter triggering the an identification of the packets to be measured, by means of a hashing function in particular;

Aa parameter triggering the a counting of the packets to be measured;

~~the-a~~ method for transmitting the measurements to the measuring device (M).

8. (currently amended): A measuring probe in accordance with claim 1-3, ~~in which~~
wherein the transmissions with the measuring device (M) are made secure.

9. (currently amended): A measuring probe in accordance with claim 8, ~~in which~~
wherein the means ~~of~~ for making the transmissions with the measuring device secure are
transmitted by a signalling-signaling message.

10. (currently amended): A measuring probe in accordance with claim 1, ~~else~~
including further comprising:

means to decide for deciding on the whether creation said signaling means creates ~~of~~ a
new measurement task, ~~by the said signalling means (S_s)~~, in particular in accordance with a
sensitivity indicator associated with the said measuring probe.

11. (currently amended): A measuring probe in accordance with claim 10, ~~in which~~
wherein said means for deciding also decides the decision is also as a function of a priority
contained in the said received message.

12. (currently amended): A ~~network element~~, in particular a router, including
comprising a measuring probe in accordance with claim 1.

13. (currently amended): A telecommunication network including comprising measuring probes in accordance with claim 1.

14. (currently amended): A telecommunication network in accordance with claim 13, including, in addition, further comprising measuring devices (M).

15. (new) A method for taking measurements of data flows composed of packets, transmitted along a path formed by a multiplicity of equipment in a telecommunication network, the method comprising:

performing measurements, in accordance with configuration data;

determining that one or more packets transmitted along the said path form a signaling message;

determining said configuration data from said signaling message;

transmitting measurement reports, containing said measurements, to a measuring device determined by an identifier contained in said configuration data; and

transmitting said measurements to said measuring device by means of a proxy, the measurement reports transmitted to said proxy containing said identifier.

16. (new) The method of claim 15, wherein said measurements are relative to said data flow.

17. (new) The method of claim 15, wherein said determining comprises reading a specific label, contained in said received message, and determining whether said received message is a signaling message from this specific label.

18. (new) The method of claim 15, wherein said configuration base contains a set of records, each record corresponding to a measurement task and each record comprising:
a filter which determines the packets on which the measurements must be performed; and parameters relating to the method of measurement.

19. (new) The method of claim 18, in which said parameters are chosen from the group of factors comprising:

the time during which the measurements must be performed;
sampling data
a hashing function;
a parameter triggering a time-stamping of the packets to be measured;
a parameter triggering an identification of the packets to be measured, by means of a hashing function;
a parameter triggering a counting of the packets to be measured;
a method for transmitting the measurements to the measuring device (M).

20. (new) The method of claim 1, wherein the transmissions with the measuring device are made secure.

21. (new) The method of claim 20, wherein means for making the transmissions with the measuring device secure are transmitted by a signaling message.

22. (new) The method of claim 1, further comprising:
deciding whether a new measurement task is created, in accordance with a sensitivity indicator associated with said measuring probe.

23. (new) The method of claim 22, wherein said deciding is decided as a function of a priority contained in said received message.

24. (new) A router comprising a measuring probe implementing the method of claim 15.

25. (new): A measuring probe, comprising:
means for accessing data flows composed of packets, transmitted along a path formed by a multiplicity of equipment in a telecommunication network, said data flows passing through said measuring probe;
measurement means for performing measurements, in accordance with configuration data;
determination means for determining that one or more packets transmitted along the said path form a signaling message; and
signaling means for determining said configuration data from said signaling message.